U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

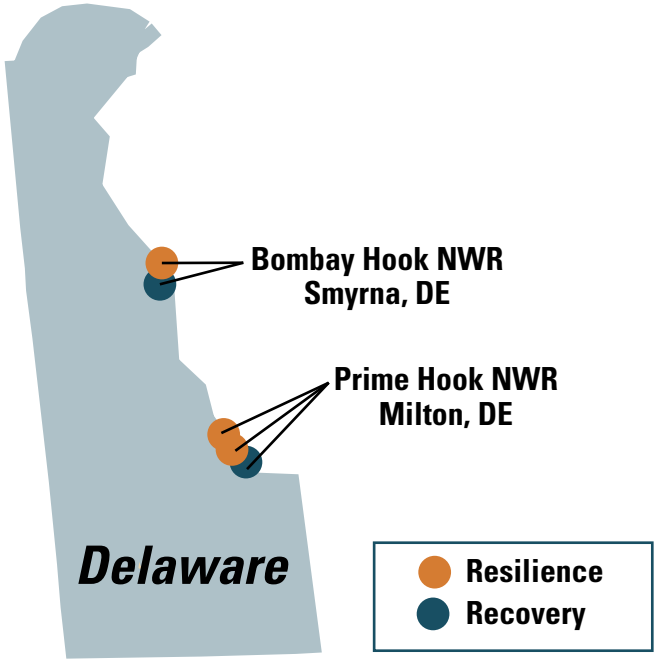
Building a Stronger Coast in Delaware

Hurricane Sandy Recovery and Resilience Projects

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, through the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013, is investing more than $39 million in projects to help Delaware recover from impacts of Hurricane Sandy and to better withstand future storms. The projects will restore and add resilience to saltwater and freshwater habitats and repair and restore national wildlife refuge (NWR) facilities for safe visitor and staff access.

Four planned projects will:
- Protect one mile of beach
- Restore 4,000 acres of tidal marsh

Total funding : $39,493,491



DELAWARE RESILIENCE AND RECOVERY PROJECTS

Project	Type	Description	Location	Funding Awarded
Restore coastal tidal marsh and barrier beach	Resilience	Protect and restore 4,000 acres of marsh	Prime Hook NWR	$19,805,000
Rebuild/enhance natural coastal defenses	Recovery	Rebuild about one mile of existing dunes and barrier beach and fill gaps with sand	Prime Hook NWR	$19,000,000
Provide backup power - generator, solar and electrical improvements	Recovery	Increase sustainability and reliability by installing solar-powered systems	Prime Hook NWR Bombay Hook NWR	$686,591
Repair damaged gate	Recovery	Restore access by repairing damaged gate	Bombay Hook NWR	$1,900

REGIONAL SCIENCE PROJECTS

Delaware also will benefit from regionwide science projects designed to help resource managers, planners, conservation partners and private landowners make better-informed decisions.

Project	Description	Location	Funding Awarded
Modernize coastal barrier resources system (CBRS) comprehensive map	Update the CBRS maps, which highlight delicate natural areas vulnerable to change	CT, DE, MD, MA, NJ, NY, NC, RI, VA	$5,000,000
Provide decision support for increasing resilience of tidal wetland habitats and species	Create a central, region-wide study on wetland impact and effective responses with standardized metrics	CT, DE, MD, MA, NJ, NY, RI, VA	$2,200,000
A Stronger Coast: increase coastal resilience and preparedness	Identify current condition of salt marshes, evaluate shifts in sandy beaches, provide scientific data to help strengthen the coast	CT, DE, ME, NJ, NY, RI, VA	$2,060,000
Provide decision support for increasing resilience of beach habitats and beach-dependent species	Create and integrate predictive models of coastal impacts such as rising sea levels, storms, and beach habitats to study their interaction and guide conservation decisions	CT, DE, MD, MA, NJ, NY, RI, VA	$1,750,000
Determine resilience of the tidal marsh bird community	Assess Hurricane Sandy's impact on tidal marsh sites and identify high-priority areas, standardizing measurement metrics	CT, DE, MD, MA, NJ, NY, RI, VA	$1,573,950
Increase resilience and improve standards for culverts and road stream crossings	Develop a survey of New England road stream crossings to assess condition and effective storm management strategies	CT, DE, MD, MA, NJ, RI, VA	$1,270,000
Model submerged aquatic vegetation and salt marsh resilience	Build a model to help predict effects of future storms on salt marshes and associated migratory bird populations	CT, DE, MD, NJ, NY, NC, RI, VA	$217,000

Tim Williams

Great blue heron

For more information, visit http://www.fws.gov/hurricane/sandy/ or contact:

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